

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 05498 290725Z
ACTION OES-06

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C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 5498

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: TECH, ID
SUBJECT: REASSURANCES TO GOI ON EMERGING U.S. NUCLEAR POLICY

REF: (A) STATE 88510, (B) JAKARTA 4523

1. IN ABSENCE OF INDONESIAN NATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (BATAN) DIRECTOR-GENERAL BAIQUNI, EMBOFF MET WITH BATAN DIRECTOR SOEPARMO AND CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER SOEPRAPTO TO BRIEF THEM RE UMS. POLICIES IN ATOMIC ENERGY FIELD. IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 2 REF A, EMBOFF ASSURED THEM THAT U.S. HAD NO INTENTION OF PLACING EMBARGO ON EXPORT OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY AND MATERIALS, BUT THAT AS A CONSEQUENCE OF CURRENT REVIEW OF U.S. NON-PROLIFERATION POLICY DIRECTED BY THE PRESIDENT, IT HAS BEEN DECIDED THAT LICENSES TO EXPORT U.S. REACTORS UTILIZING HEU FUEL WILL BE APPROVED IN THE FUTURE ONLY UNDER EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES. FURTHERMORE, FOREIGN VENDORS OF RESEARCH AND TEST REACTORS WHICH ARE DEPENDENT ON U.S.- SUPPLIED FUEL WILL BE ADVISED THAT U.S. DENIAL OF HEU FUEL FOR SUCH NEW FACILITIES SHOULD NORMALLY BE EXPECTED IN THE FUTURE. EMBOFF ALSO INFORMED SOEPARMO AND SEOPRAPTO THAT CURRENT REVIEW CALLS FOR
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RENEGOTIATION OF EXISTING AGREEMENTS FOR COOPERATION, AND PASSED THEM TEXT OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S APRIL 7 SPEECH ON NUCLEAR POWER POLICY.

2. SOEPARMO AND SOEPRAPTO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR BRIEFING BUT VOICED THEIR CONCERN OVER WHAT THEY TERMED ABRUPT CHANGE IN U.S. POLICY. EMBOFF EXPLAINED THAT NEW

POLICIES GREW OUT OF HISTORICAL U.S. CONCERN FOR NON-PROLIFERATION AS WELL AS NUCLEAR SAFETY ISSUES, WHILE ALSO REFLECTING THE THINKING OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION IN THIS AREA. IF PAMPHLET OR OTHER DOCUMENT EXPLAINING NEW POLICY IS ISSUED, SOEPARMO ASKED THAT COPY BE PASSED TO BATANAM

3. SOEPRAPTO ALSO RAISED SEPARATE ISSUE. PRIOR TO 1975 IAEA GAVE INDONESIA NUCLEAR MATERIALS FOR ITS SMALL RESEARCH REA TOR ON A GRANT BASIS; BEGINNING 1975 IAEA STARTED TO CHARGE GOI FOR THESE MATERIALS. SOEPRAPTO AND SOEPARMO SEEMED TO BELIEVE THAT U.S. INSTIGATED SHIFT IN IAEA POLICY ON CHARGING FOR MATERIALS AND ASKED IF GOI COULD AGAIN RECEIVE MATERIALS ON GRANT BASIS. EMBOFF PLEADED IGNORANCE OF THIS MATTER BUT PROMISED TO INQUIRE. IF U.S. NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR CHANGE IN IAEA POLICY CAN WE OFFICIALLY SO INFORM BATAN OFFICIALS? IF U.S. WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR CHANGE WE SUGGEST THAT IN VIEW OF FACT THAT INDONESIA IS AMONG WORLD'S POOREST NATIONS, AND A MAJOR U.S. AID RECIPIENT, THIS POLICY BE REVIEWED. NEWSOM

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